

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2002      LB 1110

the department is part paid or part volunteer. The primary reliance may be on the paid members to ensure that all community needs are met. The change ensures that paid/volunteers combination departments can create programs for their volunteer members. I'll be glad to answer questions. Simply some changes in a program that is being used, started being used by a few communities and a question arose in North Platte so this is to kind of clear it up. Be glad to answer any questions.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Mr. Clerk, amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Connealy and Hudkins would move to amend. (AM3423, Legislative Journal pages 1265-1270.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members, this amendment is part of a bill that came to the Business and Labor Committee. It covers an important issue relative to volunteer firefighters and emergency care providers. The amendment would clarify exactly when a volunteer firefighter, ambulance driver or emergency care provider enters volunteer employment for workers' compensation. The current language states that a volunteer is considered working when they are traveling from the place they're called to duty. The new language would change it from that to the instant such persons are called. We had testimony in the committee where...two cases where firefighters were...broke their leg in their house as they were heading out or on the way to the vehicle to be called at a fire. Both times the workers' compensation insurance policy balked at paying. This would simply change the wording so that...from the instant that they're called, and I ask that you approve this amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Heard the opening. Debate on the amendment? Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'd like to ask Senator Connealy a question, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Connealy, would you respond.